IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered). Please AMEND claim 3 and ADD new claim 11 in accordance with the following:

1. (original) A task control computer program including computer executable instructions which when executed by a computer, cause the computer to execute an operating system as a task by performing:

determining whether a non-idle process is included in executable processes to be executed under control of the operating system; and

changing a set priority of the operating system to a higher priority higher than a primary priority of an operating system task when it is determined at the determining that the executable processes include the non-idle process.

2. (original) The task control computer program according to claim 1, further comprising a system call that executes the determining and the changing.

3. (currently amended) The task control computer program according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, further comprising changing the higher priority to the primary priority after the operating system has been executed at the higher priority for a predetermined period of time.

4. (original) The task control computer program according to claim 1, wherein the determining comprises:

determining whether a non-idle process is executable under the control of the operating system;

determining whether a schedule request has been made to the operating system; and

determining whether an interruption request has been made to the operating system.

5. (original) The task control computer program according to claim 4, wherein the determining whether the non-idle process is executable under the control of the operating system is based on a process identifier stored in a process control block (PCB) of the process.

6. (original) The task control computer program according to claim 4, wherein the determining whether the schedule request has been made to the operating system is based on a schedule request flag stored in a process control block of the current process.

7. (original) The task control computer program according to claim 4, wherein the determining whether an interruption request has been made to the operating system is based on an interruption request flag provided in a global area of the operating system.

8. (original) The task control computer program according to claim 1, wherein the primary priority is changed to the higher priority when a predetermined period of time has elapsed after it is determined that there is an executable non-idle process.

9. (original) A task control apparatus for causing a computer to execute an operating system as a task, comprising:

a determining unit that determines whether a non-idle process is executable under control of the operating system ; and

a changing unit that changes a set priority of an operating system task to a priority higher than the primary priority of the operating system task when the determining unit determines that there is an executable non-idle process.

10. (original) A task control method for causing a computer to execute an operating system as a task, comprising:

determining whether executable processes to be executed under control of the operating system include a non-idle process; and

changing a set priority of an operating system task to a priority higher than the primary priority of the operating system task when it is determined that there is an executable non-idle process.

11. (new) The task control computer program according to claim 2, further comprising changing the higher priority to the primary priority after the operating system has been executed at the higher priority for a predetermined period of time.